



STEVE COOLEY  
LOS ANGELES COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY

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March 29, 2006

The Honorable Board of Supervisors  
County of Los Angeles  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
500 West Temple Street  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Dear Supervisors:

**AUTHORIZE THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY TO ACCEPT FIFTHTEENTH YEAR GRANT  
FUNDS FROM THE GOVERNOR'S OFFICE OF EMERGENCY SERVICES (OES)  
FOR THE SPECIAL EMPHASIS VICTIM ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (SEVAP) FOR  
FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2005-06  
(SECOND AND FOURTH DISTRICTS) (3-VOTES)**

**IT IS RECOMMENDED THAT YOUR BOARD:**

1. Authorize the District Attorney, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to accept grant award funding for SEVAP from OES in the amount of \$110,000. The program award is based on project cost of \$137,500, with a required 20 percent match of \$27,500. The grant award period is July 1, 2005 through June 30, 2006.
2. Authorize the District Attorney or his designee, on behalf of the County of Los Angeles, to serve as Project Director and to sign and approve revisions to the Grant Award Agreement that do not affect the net County cost of the program.

### **PURPOSE/JUSTIFICATION OF RECOMMENDED ACTION**

This program provides specialized, bilingual and bicultural victim services to underserved and unserved victims of gang related crimes in the Compton, Inglewood and Long Beach areas. The direct, comprehensive services provided include: crisis intervention, follow-up counseling, emergency services, court support, Victim Compensation application assistance, resource referrals, as well as training to law enforcement agencies and community outreach.

The delay in requesting authorization for grant acceptance is due to OES's late notification of the 2005-06 grant award, which was received by the department on January 10, 2006.

Board approval is required to accept these grant funds.

### **Implementation of Strategic Plan Goals:**

This program is part of the District Attorney's commitment to assisting underserved victims of crime by alleviating trauma and devastating effects of crime on the lives of victims and their families. Acceptance of the grant award supports the County's Strategic Plan Goal No. 4, Fiscal Responsibility, by securing an available revenue source at the State level.

### **FISCAL IMPACT/FINANCING**

Funding for this program was included in the department's 2005-06 budget. The funding awarded for FY 2005-06 is \$110,000 with a required 20 percent match of \$27,500, for a required program cost of \$137,500. The estimated program cost for FY 2005-06 is \$153,928. The department will absorb the required match of \$27,500 and the additional program cost of \$16,428.

Program staffing consists of 2.0 Victim Services Representatives, 1.0 Student Professional Worker, and .25 Supervising Victim Services Representative.

If funding for this program were terminated, an evaluation would be conducted to determine whether the program would either be continued with costs absorbed by the department, or discontinued with the reallocation of staff to vacant budgeted positions.



### **FACTS AND PROVISIONS/LEGAL REQUIREMENTS**

The Board of Supervisors designated the District Attorney's Office, through its Victim Assistance Program, as the major provider of comprehensive services to victims and witnesses of crime, and as the agency to receive funds pursuant to Penal Code Section 13835.2.

Funding for this program was established 15 years ago and gang crime continues to be a serious problem throughout Los Angeles County. It is particularly significant in the targeted SEVAP communities. In 2004, the Compton, Century and Lennox Sheriff's stations reported 69 gang-related homicides. Inglewood Police Department reported nine gang-related homicides. Long Beach Police Department reported 20 gang-related homicides in 2004. SEVAP advocates assist hundreds of victims of gang violence and their immediate family members yearly.

As noted in the chart below, the number of new clients served has been increasing significantly each fiscal year since 2001-02.

<u>Fiscal Year</u>	<u>New clients served</u>	<u>% increase</u>	<u>Surviving relatives of homicide victims</u>	<u>Victims of Assault</u>
2001-02	497		215	
2002-03	659	33%	348	272
2003-04	816	24%	386	360
2004-05	980	20%	313	572

In the first six months of the 2005-06 fiscal year, the SEVAP has reported serving 465 new clients, of which, 333 were victims of assault.

### **IMPACT ON CURRENT SERVICES (OR PROJECTS):**

This program does not propose attorney staff augmentation. Therefore, the District Attorney's Office is not subject to the Board Motion of December 15, 1998, requiring clearance with the Alternate Public Defender, Probation, Public Defender, and Sheriff's Departments.

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**CONCLUSION:**

Following Board authorization to accept the grant award for the program, the Executive Officer-Clerk of the Board is requested to return two copies of the adopted Board letter to Patricia Orozco, Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office, Contracts and Grants Unit, 201 North Figueroa Street, Suite 1300, Los Angeles, California 90012. Any questions may be directed to Ms. Orozco at (213) 202-7651.

Very truly yours,



STEVE COOLEY  
District Attorney

pao

c: Chief Administrative Officer  
County Counsel

**Department:** District Attorney

The Special Emphasis Victim Assistance Program provides direct, comprehensive services and outreach to special emphasis crime victims who are defined as individuals who have been victimized by a specific violent crime and are presently underserved (e.g., family members of homicide victim, the elderly or drunk driving victims and their families). Services include crisis intervention, follow-up counseling, emergency services, court support, resource referrals, Victim Compensation application assistance, as well as, in-service training to law enforcement agencies and community outreach. Compton, Inglewood, and Long Beach are the target areas to be served by this program.

### Grant Acceptance Deadline

Part Time 1

Date \_\_\_\_\_

3/27/06